

Montana Disaster & Emergency Services Division
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DES
NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 1993

VOLUME 20

NUMBER 1

JOHN E. PRENDERGAST
ADJUTANT GENERAL

DAN LIEBERG
ACTING ADMINISTRATOR



MARC RACICOT
GOVERNOR



▶ ▶ ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTES ◀ ◀

William K. Good, Jr. resigned as the Montana Disaster and Emergency Services (DES) Division Administrator on December 31, 1992. On behalf of Montana DES, I take this opportunity to thank Bill for his leadership the past two and one-half years. Although he is no longer with us as "boss", Bill is still with us as a friend. He truly believes in emergency management and what we do. Hopefully, he will visit us occasionally so we can share stories about "the Griz", tales of his elk hunting adventures (or lack thereof) and provide another opportunity to see how red we can actually get his hair. We wish Bill and his wife Sally all the best in his retirement.

I would like to welcome a new face to the emergency management community, Major General John E. (Gene) Prendergast. Governor Marc Racicot appointed Major General Prendergast as the Adjutant General for the Department of Military Affairs. General Prendergast has pledged his support to emergency management and is keenly interested in what DES does for Montana.

On January 4, 1993, General Prendergast selected me to fill the position as DES Division Administrator. The position is temporary until the formal selection process is initiated. I sincerely feel that Montana DES personnel, both local and state, are committed to making emergency management a viable, competent and professional system throughout the great State of Montana. We will need each other to make it through the times that are looming ahead: the shortage of State money and the potential reorganization of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. It is my hope, no matter how long I serve as Administrator, to keep the lines of communication open between state and local DES and to continue with the development of the five-year plan for the division.

I am looking forward to serving DES as its Administrator and I hope to see you at the Governor's Conference on Disaster Preparedness, February 24th.

Dan Lieberg

PREZ SEZ

We're looking forward to the MACO/DES Governor's Conference on February 24th; you and your commissioners will participate in an interesting exercise designed to teach the principles of recovery from a CEO's perspective. Bring your commissioners and EOP for a thought-provoking session.

Please come early on Tuesday, February 23rd, when we'll kick off our association meeting with legislative reports and two important topics - **"The Future of the DES Association and Disaster Preparedness in Our Schools"**. The session starts at 1:30 p.m. sharp. We should be done by 5 p.m..

Make sure that you attend our association dinner on Thursday night at the Colonial Inn to enjoy fine food and the company of your colleagues. It should be an enjoyable evening as we renew old acquaintances and trade disaster stories.

Wilma happily reports that FOUR counties have joined the association for the first time. Hurrah! Keep those memberships coming in and pay your dues if you haven't done so. We strive for 100% participation to give everyone a stronger organization.

Congratulations to Dan Lieberg for having been appointed as Acting DES Administrator. I know that you'll give Dan your support as he keeps a steady hand at the helm of the division.

A goodbye to Bill Good after two good (no pun intended) years as the past administrator. Bill and his wife, Sally, have been invited to our dinner on February 25th so that we can say thanks and goodby in proper DES fashion.

See you at 1:30 on Tuesday, February 23rd, for the first session of what promises to be a productive Governor's Conference.

Paul Spengler, President
DES Association



GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE REMINDER

Get your **LODGING RESERVATION REQUEST** in for the Governor's Conference/ Emergency Management Workshop as soon as possible. **CUT-OFF-DATE** for reservations is February 8, 1993. Motel rooms are still available at Comfort Inn, Days Inn, Jorgenson's Holiday Motel and Super 8 Motel. If you need assistance, call Gail Dreher or Marlys Cain at 444-6911.



[illegible]



CISD UPDATE

CISD GOAL: Organize a statewide network of Critical Incident Stress Debriefing teams capable of responding to the needs of responders and victims of single daily traumatic events, emergencies or disasters.

The first organizational CISD meeting was very successful. The meeting was held on December 16th in Helena. Forty-eight individuals representing various public and private agencies attended the meeting. During the first half of the meeting, participants developed a list of key issues which they felt might affect the implementation of the project. During the second half, participants focused on the particulars of each issue.

Before adjourning, fifteen participants volunteered to organize a steering committee. The steering committee plans to meet before the end of March, 1993.

Dan McGowan

SCME

Use to be that right around this time of year I'd be getting an itch to go out surveying, breath in some of that brisk Montana air and wander about the streets of our cities and towns gathering new information for our shelter listings. Well, as many have already been informed, my days as a shelter surveyor ended on the first of October, 1992. I have become what is known as the Survivable Crisis Management Engineer, that is SCME in acronym or SCUMMY for short to those who know me.

FEMA ended the Facility Survey, FS, program because they felt that with the world situation there was not such a great need anymore for fallout type sheltering. Unfortunately, along with the loss of the nuclear shelter program, we've also lost the RAC (reception and care) shelter program: those shelters for all other types of disasters. Identification of RAC type shelters is now the prerogative of the local coordinator.

In anticipation of the FS program ending, I tried to complete as many surveys as possible before the first of October. I haven't received the latest shelter listing printout from FEMA, but I

have been informed that a "final" printout will be out in the spring. This printout will be forwarded to all county coordinators as soon I get it. I am also supposed to receive a computer disk with all of the shelter data for the state, to be kept on my computer in the state office. My intention is to make this information available to all interested coordinators.

As of this writing, we're still ironing out just what an SCME is. FEMA has provided some guidance on what the duties are; more has been promised. It all boils down to providing technical support to the SCM plan, which allows for better operational capability between Federal, State and Local jurisdictions and Continuity of Government during times of extreme crisis.

In closing, I just want to say that for the last four years I have spent a great deal of time in the field working with Local Coordinators, Law Enforcement Officers and Fire Department Personnel; I've enjoyed every moment of it. I appreciate your efforts in helping me do my job and I hope that the data I've collected is useful in the development of your EOP's.

James P. Kujawa

TRAINING \$ SHORTFALL

Montana received its Federal Fiscal Year 1993 training allocation. The allocation is approximately 12 percent less than last year and the projected need for this year. To make up for the shortfall, we will cancel several training activities and limit enrollment in those remaining. The activities to be deleted are:

- * Radiological Response Team Course
- * Earthquake Training with Utah
- * Disaster Recovery Operations Course
- * Federal Response Plan (Third day of Fall Training)

The "Civil Defense: An All-Hazards Approach Course" will be limited to those EMA funded individuals who need to take the course for funding eligibility purposes.

When attending training, please keep in mind the tight funding situation and help us reduce expenditures. Approximately 60 percent of our reimbursements is for transportation; car pooling can really make a difference and will definitely be a factor in approval of future training applications.

From all indications, this shortfall is not a one time event, but more likely a trend. The change will require that we address how to do training more efficiently and with less money.

Chris Christensen



NANCYJO REPORTS

Exercise Design Course

The Exercise Design Course was successfully conducted October 7-9 at the Sherman Inn in Wolf Point. This course was sponsored by the Fort Peck Tribes, Assiniboine Sioux. Participants included forty-one individuals representing all emergency management disciplines: Department of Housing, Department of Health, Tribal Police, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Montana Highway Patrol, Glendive Fire Department, Roosevelt County Sheriff's Office, Burlington Northern Railroad, Hays Volunteer Fire Department and Dispatch.

Chris, NJ and Fred conducted the course with strong facilitation by Sgt. Larry Bergum, Norm Parrent, Dan Lieberg and Larry Akers.

Decision Making and Problem Solving Course

The Decision Making Course was held twice this quarter:

December 3rd in Dillon hosted by DES Coordinator Larry Laknar who recruited 23 participants from his community; instructed by Chris Christensen.

December 8th in Roundup hosted by DES Coordinator Ken Minnie who recruited 26 participants from his community; instructed by Chris Christensen and Bill Bishop.

Home Study Courses

HS-7, "A Citizen's Guide to Disaster Assistance" will be available sometime after April 1993.

EMI Schedule Change

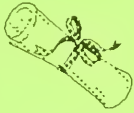
The IEMC-Hazardous Materials course scheduled for May 24-28, 1993 will be conducted on September 27, October 1, 1993.

EMI Catalogs

EMI is attempting to correct its distribution list. To assist in this process, a post card was bound into the catalog this year on page 84. If you wish to continue to receive this catalog, you must complete the post card and return it to EMI.

NancyJo Ilminen





Introduction to Emergency Management

The Introduction to Emergency Management Course was held at the Aladdin Inn in Helena, December 7-11. Twenty-seven participants representing Montana Highway Patrol, Helena Police, American Red Cross, County DES Coordinators, City/County administration, National Weather Service, U.S. West, Montana National Guard, Ovando Volunteer Fire, Montana Power Company and volunteer organizations completed the course.

The course was conducted by NancyJo Ilminen, Bob Musselman, Fred Cowie, Paul Spengler (Lewis & Clark County Coordinator), Ken Jarolimek (ND Division of Emergency Management) and Sal Gentle (SD Division of Emergency Management). City of Helena Mayor Kay McKenna and Lewis and Clark County Commissioner Blake Wordal served on the board to hear the team presentations. A big thank you for all the assistance in making this one of the best courses to date.

Governor's Conference

By now you should have received a letter advising you about the Wednesday format, which will include an afternoon hazmat exercise. Letters and packets are being written now that will go out to the "role players".

Remember to send in the Federal Application Form 95-5 which is used for Thursday's training session, "Overview of the Incident Command System". The instructor for this workshop is Bill Bishop, District II Representative.

Please call NancyJo, 444-6911, if you have any questions regarding the Hazmat Exercise.

CUDOS TO "INTRO TO E.M." PARTICIPANTS

On behalf of the Montana Hope Project, I want to thank you for your generous donation of \$26. As you may already know, the Montana Hope Project is a non-profit organization that has been working since 1984 to give joy to ill children and their families. "THE SOLE PURPOSE OF THIS PROJECT IS TO PROVIDE A 'DREAM COME TRUE' TO A CHILD WITH A LIFE THREATENING ILLNESS."

The donation you sent will be used to help critically ill Montana children realize a dream.

A gift such as yours recently helped to send a child and his family on a vacation to Disneyworld. The child's mother wrote the Hope project a thank you which said in part, "...we all thank you from the bottom of our hearts! We will all treasure these memories for a lifetime!" Words such as hers bring mixed emotions as I realize her joyful memories may outlive the child with whom she shared them, but what a blessing to know they had that special time together. It is only because of people such as yourself that such dreams can continue to be realized.

Please continue to remember the Montana Hope Project in the future, and share our story with other individuals and groups with whom you may be affiliated. Together we can turn a child's dreams into memories that will last a lifetime.

Perry L. Brown, Treasurer
Montana Hope Project



FLOODPLAIN ENGINEER REORGANIZATION

In times of shrinking budgets and co-location of offices, one outfit is expanding! Actually, the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) has lost personnel like the rest of us, but they have come up with an innovative way to make up for their losses, and in turn we will benefit.

The DNRC Floodplain Management section recently conducted a training workshop which the undersigned attended. The purpose of the workshop was to train five engineers from DNRC's Water Resource Regional offices in the various aspects of floodplain management. This takes some of the workload from an understaffed office in

Helena and places more expertise in the field. It places more work load on the DNRC Field Engineers, but it gives the local DES Coordinator a closer point of contact. Each engineer will work on projects located in a specific region of the state. The map below outlines the regions covered by the five engineers.

Larry Akers



WHO SAID "FLOOD"?

Now is the time to think about how your jurisdiction is going to handle potential floods that might result from a rapid melt of all the snow we've been getting; especially if the melt is accompanied by warm temperatures and rain. Consider getting key people in your jurisdiction together to discuss and review such questions as:

- Who's in charge?
- Are evacuation policies and procedures in place and understood?
- Are resources adequate (personnel, sandbags, sand and etc.)?
- Do key people know their roles in the EOC?
- Are mutual aid agreements in place and understood?
- What is the procedure and timing for declaration of local and/or state disasters?
- Are communication channels (relationships as well as frequencies) understood and adequate?
- Is an appropriate location identified for use as a Disaster Application Center in the event of a Presidential declaration?

Bill Thomas



- ▶ Beaverhead County has already declared an emergency for possible flooding due to ice jams.

ENGINEERING BOUNDARIES



FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT REGIONAL ENGINEERS

-  Jim Beck • Helena Regional Office
-  Larry Schock • Missoula Regional Office
-  Marvin Cross • Havre Regional Office
-  Sterling Sundheim • Lewistown Regional Office
-  Dave Adair • Billings Regional Office

"HAZMATTERS"

EPA "FRONTIER" GRANT

Billings was the site of the January 20th "frontier" hazardous materials planning conference, funded as part of an EPA grant. The grant goal is to develop a model process whereby extremely rural jurisdictions can develop viable hazardous materials risk management plans. This District IV meeting had the perfect emergency management "mix"; representatives from the tribal community, county, state, federal, fire, police, environmental health, public works, extension service, EMS, DES, IHS, BIA, LEPC and on and on. The meeting was facilitated by Fred Cowie and Norm Parrent. The process of merging local frontier needs with Title III requirements has begun in earnest. An information package will be available from Fred if you want to know more about the process.

SERC MEETING The first meeting of the reorganized and expanded SERC was held January 12th in the State EOC. The new government agency/private sector SERC membership received an orientation as to SARA Title III, SERC, Coordinating Council for the Transportation of Hazardous Waste and Materials, Executive Orders and SERC

hazardous materials grant programs from USDOT, USEPA and USFEMA. The membership discussed addressing pertinent concepts such as a new executive order and regional hazmat response teams within Montana. The next scheduled meeting of the SERC is March 9th at 9:30 in the State EOC.

HMTUSA GRANT

PACKAGES Fred has the packages for the 1993 HMTUSA grants. The packages contain a three page fill-in-the-blank application form, along with "guidance" straight from the USDOT grant application package. Unfortunately, this means that there are 17 pages of guidance with the training package, but there is just one page with the planning package. Consideration cannot be given to proposals unless they are submitted through the official LEPC application process.

Fred Cowie



HAZMAT AND HOSPITALS

You might want to consider buying a copy of "Don't Let This Happen to You: A Guide to HazMat Preparedness for Hospitals". This twenty-five page booklet contains sound advice for hospitals and starts by asking the question, "What would you (the hospital) do if a victim showed up at your emergency department without first being decontaminated in the field by trained emergency responders?". The strengths of the publication are its checklists, list of references and emphasis on the important role of Local Emergency Planning Committees. For a copy, send \$5.00 to:

South Florida Regional
Planning Council
3440 Hollywood Blvd.
Suite #140
Hollywood, Florida 33021

Bill Thomas

Emergency Management Phases

MONTANA ORGANIZES A STATE HAZARD MITIGATION TEAM

A new program is about to begin in Montana. Under the watchful eyes of the Disaster Assistance Program (DAP) guys, Akers and McGowan, a State Hazard Mitigation Team (SHMT) is being formed. The initial meeting of the SHMT was conducted on December 17, 1992; attending were members from most of the state agencies involved during a presidential disaster.

Recent events in other states have pointed out the necessity to have a state team in place. This past summer I had the opportunity to work with a state which had a presidential disaster. Their team was the same place ours is right now; it did not exist. Let me tell you, I don't want to go through that in Montana. Section 409 of the Robert T. Stafford act calls for the formation of a joint state and federal hazard mitigation team and a formal written report within fifteen days of the disaster declaration. Forming the team after the declaration is not the time for introducing team members and scheduling training classes.

EMI has recently developed three hazard mitigation courses, one of which is the State Hazard Mitigation Planning Course. With the assistance of the MT DES Training Section, the DAP section will conduct this course on April 1, 1993. Once the state team is trained, the counties are the next target. During the month of September 1993, I am told there will be a DES Coordinators Conference. As part of the available training, a local level Hazard Mitigation Planning Course will be taught.

With trained personnel at both the state and local level, we can implement pre-

disaster hazard mitigation project identification. When you work up a project at the county level, the SHMT will meet and review the submission. It is entirely possible that some state agency may have a solution to the problem and you may not have to wait until a presidential declaration makes money available. For those projects which cannot be funded, the team will prioritize them and file the project pending a presidential declaration. If the situation ever arises, we will have a file of projects subject to possible funding regardless of location.

Larry Akers



Earthquake Hazard Mitigation in Montana Schools...

A Success Story

Helena School District #1 embarked upon the most ambitious earthquake preparedness/mitigation project in Montana to date. Through the ongoing efforts of Lewis & Clark County DES Coordinator and DES Association President Paul Spengler, the Helena School District #1 Board approved expenditures for mitigation projects district-wide.

These mitigation efforts include securing of file cabinets and drawers, relocation of high heavy objects that could cause injury during an earthquake and the installation of 4 mil clear plastic window film on all windows in the district to safeguard building occupants from flying glass during a quake.

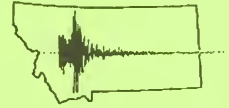
The National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program (NEHRP) of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has expressed interest in using a case study of the district as a national model for schools throughout the United States. NEHRP was so impressed with the efforts and commitment of the school district that they made a

grant to the district of \$29,000 to assist in the project.

Terry Pipinich, maintenance supervisor for the district, was a major proponent of this work. The School Board approved approximately \$125,000 to create the safest possible environment for the district's students and staff.

Both Spengler and Pipinich will be the first to admit that this project did not bloom overnight. Hazard awareness and preparedness activities have been an ongoing priority for over ten years in Helena and Lewis and Clark County. As we hope to document in the case study of the Helena School District #1 project, these continued awareness activities eventually create an environment in which policy level members of the district are willing to make the necessary financial expenditures to complete such projects.

The moral of this story ... a journey of 1,000 miles begins with one step. **Continued efforts in hazard awareness, preparedness and mitigation activities will result in concrete efforts toward addressing the emergency management issues in your jurisdiction.**



1992 EARTHQUAKE ACTIVITY

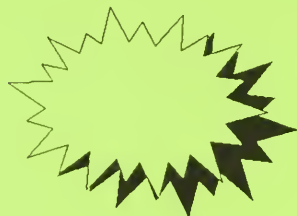
Seismologist Mike Stickney, Director of the Montana Tech Earthquake Studies Office, reported 1,017 recorded quakes in Montana during 1992. The largest earthquake recorded during the past year measured 4.3 on the Richter Scale and occurred in the Swan Valley southeast of Kalispell on April 1st.

Stickney also noted that the area around Hebgen and Quake Lakes was unusually quiet this past year. A 7.5 earthquake that occurred in 1959 caused a landslide that killed 28 people at a campground in the Madison Canyon.

Stickney indicated, Montana is the fourth most seismically active state in the U.S. behind Alaska, California and Hawaii.

Bob Musselman





WILMA GIVES IT THE 'OLE' ONE - TWO!!!

ONE --- On Tuesday, September 15th, at the War Bonnet Inn in Butte, an earthquake of 6.7 magnitude on the Richter Scale occurred. This triggered an E.O.C. response from the Chief Executive, four County Commissioners, Sheriff, Fire Chief, Highway Patrol, Search & Rescue, Medical Services, National Guard, Public Works, County Attorney, Social Services, Health Department, Red Cross, School District, RACES, Water, Power and Telephone Utilities, five branches of the local Media, 911 Dispatchers, Planning Department and Airport personnel.

Bill Murray, who played Wilma during the exercise, did a commendable job at the policy table with the Chief Executive, two County Commissioners, State DES and the County Attorney.

Dan Lieberg played the role of State DES. NancyJo Ilminen, Paul Spengler and Larry Laknar served as evaluators/observers and Bill Thomas was the E.O.C. Exercise Controller. The exercise was very beneficial as several deficient areas were identified. The outcome was extremely positive and certainly opened up a lot of people's eyes. I have kept a book on the six months of planning material, scenario, messages, letters of invitation and etc. If anyone is interested give me a call at 782-1515. I will be happy to share any or all of the material with you.

TWO --- On October 15, 1992, an Aero Chief Bowing 727, with approximately 60 to 70 passengers aboard, made a normal approach on Runway 33 at the Bert Mooney Airport in Butte. On touchdown, the tires on the right rear blew out. The plane swerved, collapsed both main gears and finally came to a stop near the intersection of Taxiway Charlie and old Runway 2-20. Such was the scenario setting off the 1992 full-scale airport and hospital exercise. The time was 8:10 a.m. on a bitter cold, snowy morning. While the weather did not cooperate, it certainly brought into play many new problems.

The exercise involved over 21 agencies and organizations plus 85 "victims" who played family members, disruptive media and of course, plane crash victims. The exercise was designed with two goals in mind: Test the Airport Disaster Plan for F.A.A. certification and Test St. James Hospital's Disaster Plan for Joint Hospital Accreditation requirements.

The exercise was a learning experience for all participants. Over 100 individuals attended the critique immediately following and submitted written evaluation forms. Many recommendations for change will soon be put into place by the local DES office and the Disaster Preparedness Council.

Wilma Puich



EMA NOTES

Keep submitting your EMA billings in a timely manner. The State DES office is paying EMA billings/claims at least twice a month. The sooner you mail them to us the sooner the county will be reimbursed.

The first checks for Federal Fiscal Year 1993 were mailed to 43 entities the beginning of January. At the present time, we are only sending compensation for billed salaries and benefits; reimbursement is based on 41 percent of that total. If you have any questions, call your District Representative or the State DES office.

Gail Dreher



DROUGHT DECLARATIONS

On November 16, 1992, Agriculture Secretary Edward Madigan announced that 11 more Montana counties were being designated as primary drought areas. This designation brings the total to 23 primary counties with 18 counties eligible for assistance under the contiguous disaster area rule. Family-sized farms in both areas are eligible to be considered for low-interest

Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) loans. Small business owners affected by the drought are eligible to apply for low-interest disaster loans through the Small Business Administration (SBA). If you have any questions, contact Dan McGowan at 444-6911.

NEW EQUIPMENT FOR NWS ON THE HORIZON

The National Weather Service (NWS) in Great Falls is preparing for a new 5700 square foot facility. Construction will begin this summer and is scheduled to be completed by Christmas. The state-of-the-art facility will be located near the International Airport.

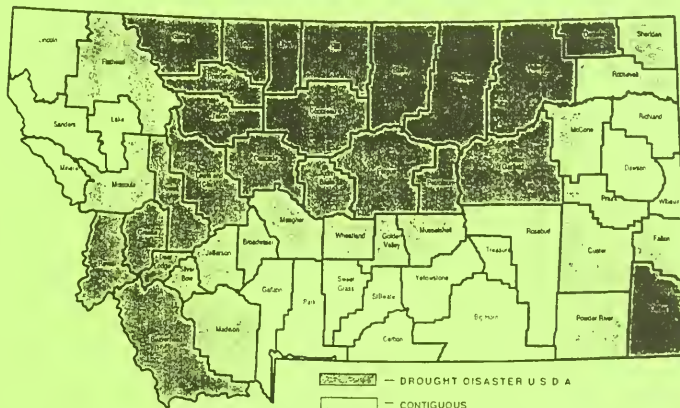
Construction of a multi-million dollar radar will begin after the new building is completed. Radar construction should be finished early on the summer of 1994. The new unit will detect damaging thunderstorms, heavy rains and air movement. It will be more accurate than any other system in existence.

Other NWS locations scheduled for new buildings and radars are Missoula, Glasgow and Billings. Missoula will be the next site to be developed starting in 1994.

David E. Olsen
NWS Area Manager



MONTANA
U. S. D. A. DROUGHT DISASTER DESIGNATION BY COUNTY 11 / 22 / 92



The Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Disaster and Emergency Services Division. It is funded, in part by a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Contributions of articles and ideas are welcome. Deadlines for submission are January 8--February issue, April 8--May issue, July 8--August issue and October 8--November issue.

The editor reserves the right to edit for clarity and length. The articles in this newsletter do not constitute official policy. Questions regarding articles may be addressed to the DES Newsletter Editor.



The August 1992 issue of the disaster and Emergency Services Newsletter was printed at a cost of \$42.94. Mailing costs were \$49.01 for a total of \$0.40 per copy.

